

REPORT TO:		Cabinet	
DATE:		31 August 2016	
REPORT OF:		Cllr Abdul Khan, Chair of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
REPORT AUTHOR:		Overview and Scrutiny Officer	
TITLE OF REPORT:		Outcome of the Call-In of the Cabinet decision on the Rhyddings Park Heritage Lottery Bid (Sequoia Tree)	
EXEMPT REPORT (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A)	No	Not applicable	
KEY DECISION:	No	If yes, date of publication:	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the outcome of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the Call-In of the Cabinet decision on the Rhyddings Park Heritage Lottery Bid (Sequoia Tree).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet notes that the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee released the decision in full for implementation.

3. Reasons for Recommendations and Background

- 3.1 At its meeting on 20th July, Cabinet considered the following item “Rhyddings Park Heritage Lottery Bid. The report related specifically to the Sequoia Tree which had been discussed in previous reports to Cabinet and Council. Cabinet made the following decision:

“That bearing in mind the long-term future of the sequoia tree and Park in general, the tree be removed and the landscape plan as originally agreed by the national Heritage Lottery Board be continued with.”

- 3.2 In accordance with the Call-In procedure for Cabinet decisions, the procedure was activated on 1st August 2016 by two members of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Call-In was sponsored by Councillor Judith Addison. Several reasons were given for the Call-In. Full details are provided in the Call-In Form, which was

included with the agenda for the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th August along with the minutes of that meeting. They can be found here <http://democracy.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=2157&Ver=4>

- 3.3 Councillor Judith Addison presented the reasons for the Call-In to the Committee. Councillor Ken Moss, Portfolio Holder for Education, Leisure and Arts; and the Acting Head of Community Services presented their reasons for the original decision, and responded to some of the points made on the Call-In.
- 3.4 The Chair invited the Committee and Members of the Public present to ask questions of the Portfolio Holder and the Acting Head of Community Services and responses were given to the following issues / concerns raised:-
- Consultation and Period Undertaken
 - Contents and Outcome of Consultation
 - Vista and Facilitation of Landscape Improvements
 - Flooding and Drainage
 - Damage to Tree and Future Maintenance Costs
 - Current and Proposed Number of Trees in Park
 - Views of Friends of Rhyddings Park and Residents
 - Petition Submitted to Council
 - Bat Survey
 - Tree Replacement
 - Reuse of Sequoia Tree Wood as Part of Improvement Scheme
- 3.5 Councillors Judith Addison and Ken Moss were then given the opportunity to sum up before the committee made their decision.
- 3.6 The Committee released the decision in full for implementation. The Committee would like to suggest that Cabinet considers using some of the wood from the sequoia tree for part of the improvement scheme in the park.

4. Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 To release the Cabinet decision in part for implementation and refer the outstanding part of the decision back to the decision making body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns – This was rejected as the Call-In related to a very specific decision (the felling of the sequoia tree) so the Committee felt that there was no option to release the decision in part.
- 4.2 To refer the decision back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns. The decision maker shall then reconsider amending the decision or not, before adopting a final decision – This was rejected as the Committee were satisfied with the reasons for the original cabinet decision.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The Sponsor of the Call-In, Portfolio Holder and Head of Service provided information for the Committee.

6. Implications

Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council)	Not applicable to this report.
Legal and human rights implications	Not applicable
Assessment of risk	Not applicable
Equality and diversity implications <i>A Customer First Analysis should be completed in relation to policy decisions and should be attached as an appendix to the report.</i>	Not applicable

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985: List of Background Papers

- 7.1 Agenda, reports and minutes of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th August 2016
<http://democracy.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=132&MIId=2157&Ver=4>